

Fred Reish

*Managing Director,
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The legal profession has its share of detractors—even Shakespeare suggested that we “first, kill all the lawyers”—but, in an arena fraught with concerns about the reach of fiduciary liability, Fred Reish has been a voice of calm and thoughtful reassurance.

Reish, Managing Director and Partner of the Los Angeles-based law firm of Reish Luftman Reicher & Cohen, has practiced employee benefits law since 1973, but it was several years before he chose to focus on the unique challenges of being a fiduciary—just ahead of the shift to more participant-directed solutions that sharpened those concerns. Though Reish characterizes the timing of that decision as “lucky,” it is indicative of his ability not only to spot an area of need, but also to be willing to do something about it.

In addition to running a thriving practice, Reish has been generous in sharing his time and expertise. He is a Charter Fellow of the American College of Employee Benefits Counsel, has served as the Chair of the Employee Benefits Subsection of the Los Angeles County Bar Association, and as a member of the Board of Directors of the American Society of Pension Professionals and Actuaries (ASPPA), as well as Co-Chair of the Government Affairs Committee of that organization. He has been writing a monthly column for *PLANSPONSOR* magazine since 2002, and is a charter faculty member of the *PLANSPONSOR* Institute.

Through all of these media, Reish has managed to make some of the most complicated legal strictures comprehensible and practical for the fiduciaries charged with overseeing workplace retirement plans. Along the way, he also has managed to emerge as the industry’s fiduciary “conscience” (though his modesty would doubtless refute that conclusion)—emphasizing not merely what the law requires, but appreciating the higher purpose in embracing best practices that enhance everyone’s retirement security.



NICK SOUZA